

RECEIVED

JUL 17 2001

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

PATENT

S/N 09/521,545



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Dale G. Swan et al. Examiner: G. Hsu  
Serial No.: 09/521,545 Group Art Unit: 1627  
Filed: 03/09/00 Docket No.: 13288.6USI2  
Title: EPOXIDE POLYMER SURFACES

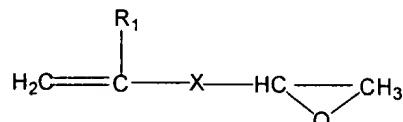
RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

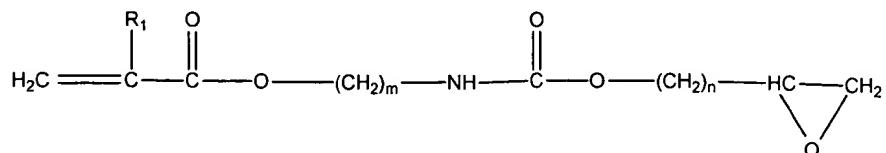
In response to the Office Action mailed on 15 June 2001, Applicants elect Group I for prosecution on the merits. Group I relates to a reagent composition. Applicants elect an acrylic polymer backbone as the generic core structure species.

The general structure of the elected species is that defined in claim 3 by the formula:

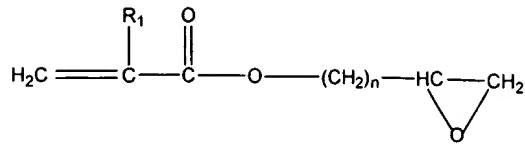


where  $R_1$  is H or  $CH_3$  and X is a noninterfering radical.

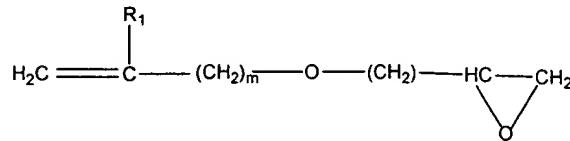
Suitable subspecies include compounds defined in claim 3 with the following structures:



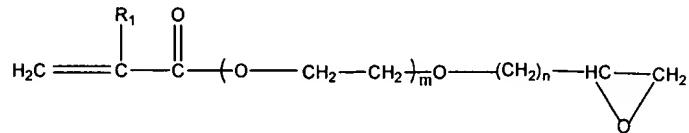
where  $m=2$  to 6,  $n=1$  to 10, and  $R_1$  is H or  $CH_3$ ;



where n=1 to 10 and R<sub>1</sub> is H or CH<sub>3</sub>;

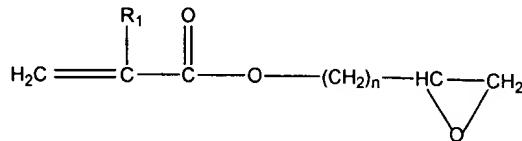


where m=0 or 1 and R<sub>1</sub> is H or CH<sub>3</sub>; and



where m=1 to 20, n=1 to 10, and R<sub>1</sub> is H or CH<sub>3</sub>.

Further, Applicants elect the subspecies of formula:



where R<sub>1</sub> is H or CH<sub>3</sub> and n = 1-10.

The elected species read on claims 1-10. Prompt prosecution on the merits of the elected claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Jay J. Pytel  
Date

Melissa J. Pytel  
Reg. No. 41,512



MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903  
Telephone: (612) 332-5300  
Direct line: (612) 371-5381